Spooking the CIA

When we last tuned in on Victor Marchetti, ex-spook of the CIA, he was glad he'd quit, glad he'd written the novel about the guy who quit the CIA after giving terrible secrets to the Commies, and hopeful that the courts would rule he doesn't have to show everything he writes about intelligence to the CIA before he publishes it.

The Supreme Court didn't come through. Marchetti has to show his new book to the blue-pencil squad in Langley—and the agency is terribly concerned with its public image these days, with all this Watergate business, you understand.

"A lot of ex-spooks have contacted me. They want me to write novels with their experience and my name behind them. I've got some good things going. I'm not so glad I quit when I look at the checkbook, and my wife had to go back to work, and I expect a lot of court action over this new book . . ."

Potomac 9/23/73 —*Henry Allen*